

To: Chairs and Members of the Committee on Children I am writing in support of Raised Bill No. 207, AN ACT CONCERNING FUNDING FOR A LYME DISEASE PREVENTION AND EDUCATION PROGRAM.

I believe that the Connecticut Department of Health should be awarded \$450,000 to implement and sustain a statewide Lyme disease prevention effort combining mass media marketing and community-based education based on the BLAST Lyme prevention model.

The BLAST program is evidence- based, cost effective, and has been proven to work. All Connecticut citizens will benefit from its recommendations.

So many people have been affected by this debilitating disease. Connecticut continues to have one of the highest rates of Lyme disease in the country.

The passage of Bill No. 207 will help to prevent the spread of Lyme disease. It will protect all our citizens, especially the most vulnerable, children and seniors.

Through the preventive measures in this Bill, we will all be healthier, and millions of dollars in medical costs will be saved.

I ask you to please pass this very worthy Bill.

Sincerely,
Maureen Goodhouse
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